



ARES District 14

Emergency Communications Plan

Part 3

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District 14 Emergency Communications Plan Review of Parts 1 & 2



- Part 1 covered:
 - Purpose of Plan
 - Introduction
 - Activation
 - Mobilization Procedures
- Part 2 covered:
 - Operations
 - Drills and Alerts
 - Terrorism Threat Levels
 - Net Operations
 - Staging Areas
- This Session covers:
 - Alert Conditions
 - Actions For Each



District 14 Emergency Communications Plan

ALERT DEFINITIONS AND INCREASED READINESS CONDITIONS



- Definitions from STX ECOMM Plan but expanded
- “Level” = “Condition” as used by TranStar
- **Condition 4 – Awareness**
 - higher level of readiness is required
 - triggered by possibility of a weather watch or increased fire threat
 - potential possibility of civil disorder or terrorism threat.
 - **District 14 ARES® Action**
 - All members should review their unit emergency plan.



District 14 Emergency Communications Plan

Condition 3 – **Caution**



- **Condition 3 – Caution**
 - automatically triggered when the National Weather Service or local weather service, issues a “Watch” condition
 - anytime Harris County Transtar goes to Level 3
 - conditions may deteriorate into a more hazardous situation
 - Increased threat of civil disorder or terrorism
- Conditions that could trigger Condition 3
 - Hurricane Watch.
 - High wind advisories with wind velocities in excess of 50 mph.
 - High water watch.
 - Flash flood watch.
 - Tornado watch.
 - Winter storm watch.
 - Similar conditions in adjacent or nearby counties that could escalate into a mutual aid requirement.



District 14 Emergency Communications Plan

Condition 3 – **Caution**



- **District 14 ARES® Action**

- Follow instructions in your unit emergency plan
- Be prepared
- Your welfare and your family's welfare take priority
- Review Section Four of this Operations Manual
- ECs and AECs monitor the Texas ARES® HF net
 - > three hour intervals beginning at 1900 local time
- District 14 ARES® members
 - monitor the District 14 ARES® bulletin repeater (147.000 MHz [+]
103.5)
 - check email for information bulletins
- NET may be activated for roll call and to pass advisory information.



District 14 Emergency Communications Plan

Condition 2 - Alert



- **Condition 2 - Alert**
 - automatically triggered by severe weather warnings
 - Harris County Transtar issues a Level 2 Alert
 - increased possibility of civil disorder or terrorism
- **Conditions that could trigger Condition 3**
 - High wind warnings with winds in excess of 60 miles per hour.
 - High water warnings.
 - Tornado warnings.
 - Flash flood warnings.
 - Winter storm warnings.
 - Similar conditions in adjacent or nearby counties when assistance and mutual aid from District 14 may be requested.



District 14 Emergency Communications Plan

Condition 2 - Alert



- **District 14 ARES® Action Under Condition 2 - Alert**
 - Follow instructions in your unit emergency plan
 - Be prepared
 - Expect the unexpected
 - Family first.
- **EC and AECs**
 - monitor the Texas ARES® HF net at not less than three hour intervals beginning at 1900 local time
- **Members**
 - monitor the 147.000 MHz (+) 103.5 bulletin repeater
 - check email for information bulletins
 - Net may be activated for roll call and to pass advisory information.
- **DEC, Unit EC and AECs**
 - review Planning and operational aspects of emergency activation
- **Operations AEC and Logistics AEC**
 - contact RRT leaders, NET Manager, NCS operators, Duty Officers and Intake Coordinators to ensure their availability and readiness
- **Planning AEC**
 - review and update the appropriate served agency Incident Action Plans (IAPs)
 - ensure that the most current version has been sent to all concerned.



District 14 Emergency Communications Plan

Condition 2 - Alert



- Depending on the situation's overview, and anticipated developments, any and all nets may be activated by direction of the DEC or EC.
- Members
 - monitor the NET frequencies announced on the 147.000 MHz (+) 103.5 District 14 ARES® bulletin repeater.
 - be aware that the automatic call up and alert system, the phone tree and the email alert system could be initiated in a Condition 2 Alert.



District 14 Emergency Communications Plan

Condition 1 – Imminent Danger



- **Condition 1 – Imminent Danger**
 - triggered by actual weather conditions or severe weather warnings when the danger to personal property and life may be threatened
 - only issued when there is a situation that has put the region, state or nation in extreme danger.
- The South Texas Section SEC or the District 14 ARES® DEC would normally be the authority authorized to trigger a Condition 1 Alert
- **Condition 1 Alert will not be automatic**
 - Only in extreme circumstances will the unit EC issue a Condition 1 Alert
 - example could be the touching down of a tornado in southwest Harris County with the probability of extensive damage.



District 14 Emergency Communications Plan

Condition 1 – **Imminent Danger**



- Condition 1 – **Imminent Danger**
 - could be triggered by civil disorder, terrorism
 - any condition including, but not limited to:
 - Extremely high winds approaching Hurricane Category 1 status.
 - Tornado sightings or tornado sightings moving toward Harris County.
 - Actual flooding



District 14 Emergency Communications Plan

Condition 1 – **Imminent Danger**



- **District 14 Action for Condition 1 – Imminent Danger**
 - highest alert level in the South Texas Section and District 14
 - preparations have been made by all District 14 members
 - automated alert system has been activated.
 - telephone tree and email systems have also been activated if time permitted
- **All District 14 Units have been activated.**
 - personnel have been activated and are at or in route to
 - Transtar
 - Greater Houston American Red Cross Headquarters and Disaster Control
 - all other EOCs
 - or their assignments.
 - Backup teams are in standby and making any final preparations.
 - Units Tactical and Resource Net is in operation.
- **Harris County Transtar is on Level 1 alert status.**



District 14 Emergency Communications Plan



END OF PART 3

TUNE IN NEXT TIME FOR PART 4